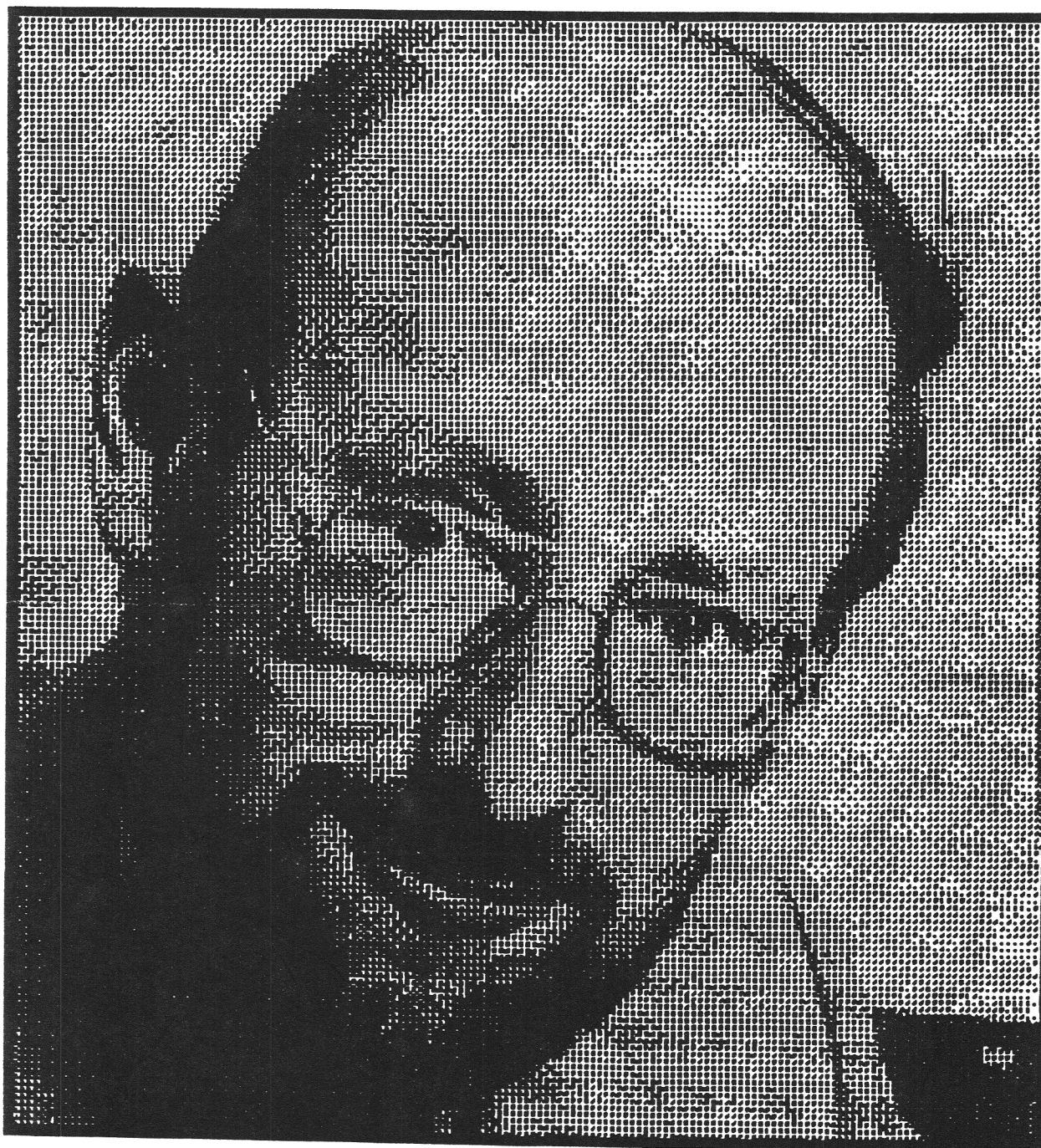


First Quarter

The RAMTOP

1990

From the Cleveland Sinclair Users Group



SEE INSIDE

The Milwaukee Timex Show!

NOTES by Tom Simon

TS 1000 Modem Utility article By Dan Ohlrich

Modem Filter By James G. DuPuy

Hello to all of you! I hope you are all feeling well. This is my first newsletter using the PC. I'll be the first one to admit that the 2068 was a LOT easier to use! The PC has it's good points but the 2068 took a lot less time! I imagine after I get used to the PC more, that this will change, I hope!

As you can see from the size, there were not many articles for this issue. I hope nothing got misplaced since all the moving around in my house. If you sent an article and I did not print it, PLEASE let me know! I would like to print a few articles about the PC since many of us now have them or are using them at work. I am using mine exclusively now since I don't have room to set up both systems. I will admit the PC is quite nice to use for telecommunications! I am using the Telix program. I highly recommend it! Procomm+ is also very good. I have had a bit of trouble with 2400 Baud on Free Net so that is why I came up with the Modem Filter Article. If you get garbage once in a while, I highly recommend you try it!

I hope to get a better printer in a few months so that will improve the newsletter. If you are planning to get a PC, you will be wise to get as big of a hard disk as you can. You also should get VGA if at all possible. If you plan to use a PC for DTP or a lot of graphics, get a 80286 or better. The 8088 or 8086 are quite slow. You will also be amazed at all the software out there on your local BBS! Most of it is very good stuff! DTP is a pain with what I have now. Most of it is due to my printer.

PLEASE SEND SOME ARTICLES!!!

If you don't send articles, this group will suffer! We all need to keep active with our machines if the club is to grow. You may upload them to Free Net or call me and send direct. Printed article are ALWAYS welcome too! Take Care All until next time! JGD

When Computer Shopper dropped its orphan computer section, it left a hole for those of us who use Timex and other discontinued machines. A publication which hopes to fill the need to deal with older machines is Used Computer Locator. They hope to be a national shopper for used and surplus computer equipment. They are looking for articles, letters, product reviews and tutorials. Write to Ken Wilkinson, Used Computer Locator, 2314 Iowa Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45246. For Subscription or advertising information call 1-800-359-7160.

Corporate Systems Center, 730 North Pastoria Ave., Sunnyvale Ca, 94086 is selling 720K 3.5" drives for \$38. for one same or \$28. each in quantities of 10. They also have a variety of hard drives and other products and they take Master Charge and Visa. You can call them at 408-737-7312.

Those of you who have gone to PC Land may be interested in knowing that you can find your favorite machines in a game called POPULOUS. In the additional disk for bitland you get to start off with ZX-81's and build them into a Cray on greenbar paper. Along the way you get a Spectrum and a PC and you must fend off the enemy who sports a Commodore Logo. Hmmm.

The rumors concerning Time Designs continue.....It has been said that it is no longer being published. We have about a dozen members who haven't received back issues from over a year ago....if anyone has heard anything at all about Time Designs or Tim Woods please let us know. Thanks.

Still publishing this year is Updates. Bill Jones says that at the end of this year he will stop editing it and if SNUG wants, they can use the magazine for their group. Bill has some back issues and you can write to him c/o Update Magazine 1317 Stratford Ave., Panama City, Florida 32404. I believe issues are \$5.00 each. In the January issue he has a very interesting article about hooking up a 2068 to an everex ev-1085 bus (this is the one the xt's use). Jon Kazor reports that he hasn't heard anything from SNUG, although after 8 months his check was finally cashed. We can only hope that this organization will continue and not turn into a free software bank for a few people.

Speaking of software, I would like to propose a club project which is to modify the machine code on several of the Spectrum Programs like Hi-Soft C and others to use the Oliger Disk routines. Any one interested? Any other suggestions from our out of town friends? Let us hear from you.

S.M.U.G. Presents

The 1990 **SINCLAIR COMPUTER** Exposition

MILWAUKEE

WISCONSIN

June 2 & 3 / Banquet Friday Night June 1
**SEMINARS, DOOR PRIZES, SWAP SHOP,
SOFTWARE, PERIPHERALS, HARDWARE,
AND LOTS OF OTHER STUFF**

Location

WAUKESHA HOLIDAY INN (414) 786-0460

Hwy 18 & I94 Waukesha, WI 53186

There will be a **SNUG** meeting Saturday Night June 2, 1990

Ticket Information:

| | <u>in advance</u> | <u>at the door</u> | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| One day | : \$ 4.00 | \$ 5.00 | |
| Both days | : \$ 7.00 | \$ 9.00 | |
| Banquet | : \$16.00 | \$16.00 | Limited seating |
| Table | : \$25.00 (incl. 2 day badge) | \$25.00 | Limited table space |
| Tables are 6 feet by 30 inches | | | |

For **MORE INFORMATION** contact

Bill Heberlein

Neal Schultz

5052 N. 91st Street

or

call 7 - 10pm

Milwaukee, WI 53225

(414) 353-4522

for **RESERVATIONS** mail to:

Expo Reservations

P.O. Box 101

Butler, WI 53007



Detach and Mail

Name _____ Phone (____) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please reserve _____ one day badge @ \$ 4.00 each = \$ _____

Please reserve _____ two day badges @ \$ 7.00 each = \$ _____

Please reserve _____ Banquet tickets @ \$16.00 each = \$ _____

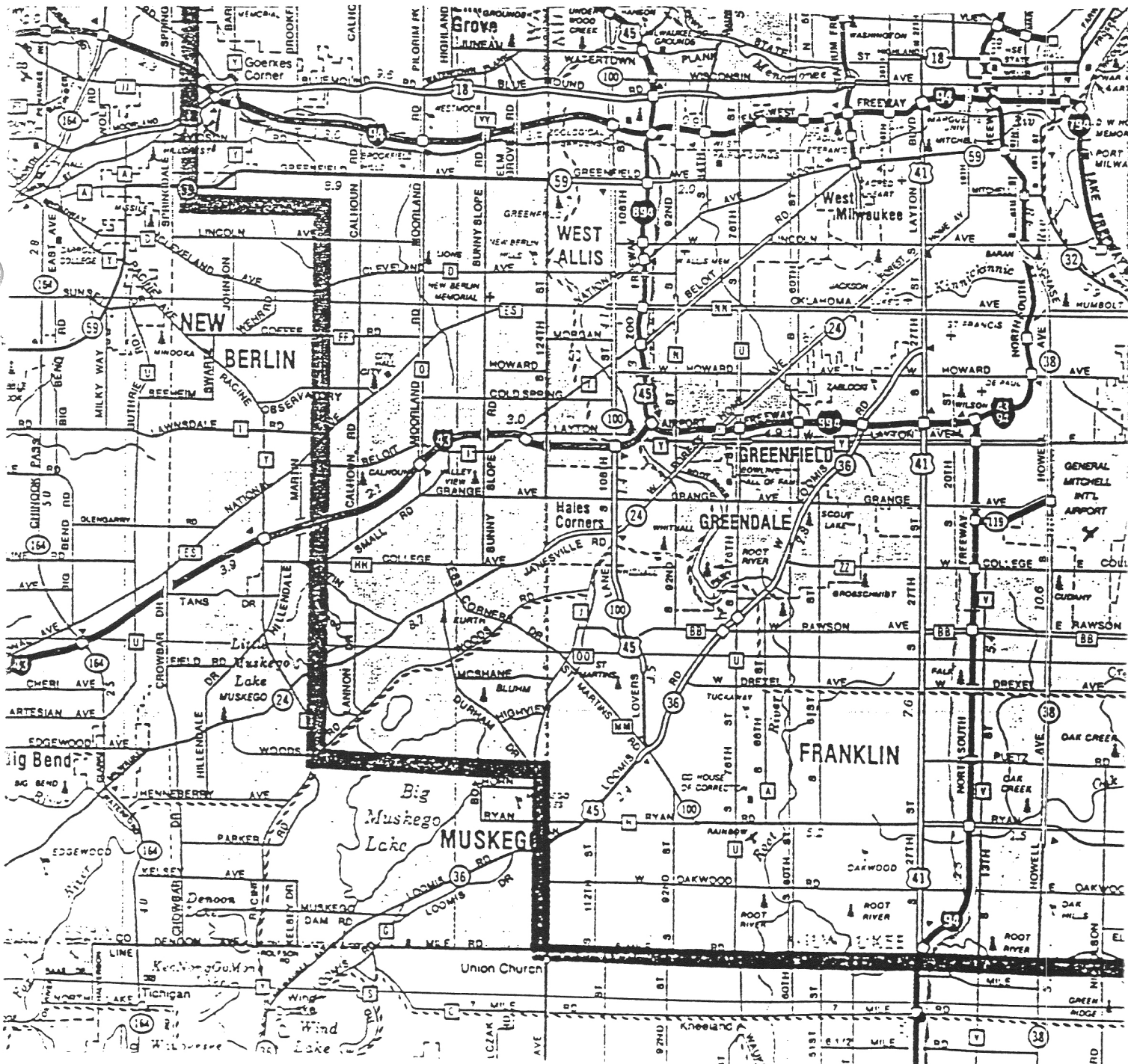
Please reserve _____ 6' x 30" tables @ \$25.00 each = \$ _____

I have included a check/money order for total = \$ _____

HOW TO GET TO THE EXPO IN MILWAUKEE

Take 194 around Chicago to Milwaukee. Although the Sinclair Computer Expo will be in Waukesha Wisconsin you may not be able to find it on a map. Waukesha is a smaller suburb of Milwaukee about 10 miles west of Milwaukee. Follow the map and you should get close without any problems. As you travel north on 194 you will pass the airport exit. This exit is about 2 miles south of 894. 894 is a left hand exit so get into either of the left two lanes. Take 894 west, about 5 miles. It will then turn north and join 45. This is a right hand exit. Follow 894/45 north for about another 5 miles to 194. National Ave. exit is about 2 miles before this exit. When reaching National Ave. move to the left hand lane as 194 west will be another left hand exit. Take 194 west although the exit sign says Madison. Don't worry almost there. There will be exits 30 A/B, highway 100, 301 A/B, Moorland Road, prior to the exit you want. Take exit 297 a right hand exit. This exit will be for highway 18 and Y. You need highway 18 so after leaving 194 stay on the exit. The first off ramp is highway 18. Now exit to highway 18 west. Follow 18, Moreland, to the first set of lights. This should be Klossow. Left is the cop shop and right are stores. Follow Klossow to the right around the curve past the Target store. The Holiday Inn will be on the right.

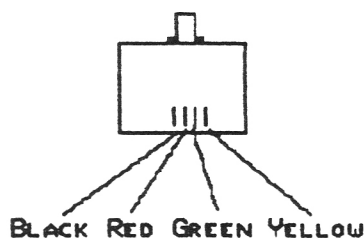
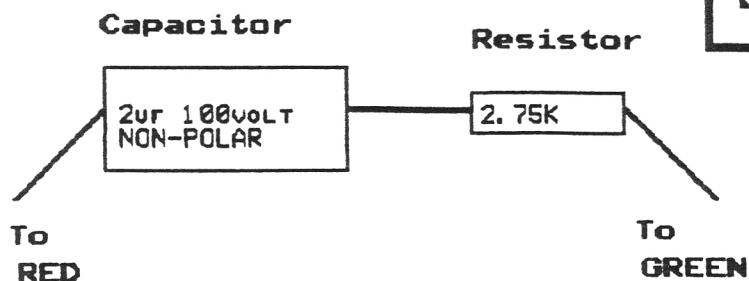
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Phone Line Filter

by James G. DuPuy



Modular Plug, Front view

Phone Line Filter

Have you ever been online to your favorite BBS and had bad blocks during file transfer or garbage characters appear on the screen for no reason? I have. In my case it seems to only happen on my favorite board, Free Net. I have also found it to happen only at 2400 baud. I called the manufacturer of my modem, Zoom Telephonics, and was told that since the problem seemed to be only with the one board, that it was more than likely due to line noise of some type. They gave me a suggestion that I tried and found to work GREAT! It is very simple and costs very little. (about \$5.00)

All you need is a 2uf non-polar capacitor rated at 90+ volts and a 2.75K resistor 1/2 watt and a modular plug. These values are a bit out of the ordinary but you may combine values to come up with the right ones. I ended up putting 2 1uf caps in parallel to get the 2uf and 2 5.6K resistors in parallel to get 2.8K (close enough). The way it's wired is as follows: The capacitor (or combination) is connected in series with the resistor (or combination) and you are left with a lead from the cap and one from the resistor. These go to the RED and GREEN lines of the phone line. I just got a modular plug and connected them to the two pins in the center.

The outer two leads are black and yellow. It does not matter if the resistor or cap lead goes to red. If you don't have a modular plug available, you can do one of two things. 1: Get an adaptor that has one male and two female. 2: Solder the leads in the modem where the red and green lines are connected. I would NOT advise doing the soldering in the modem since it will void the warranty. Most modems (internal and external) are packed pretty tight so adding parts can be tough, especially if you don't have much experience in electronics or soldering to high density PC boards.

Make sure that your leads are insulated so nothing can short! You can get a phone cord that your not using and cut it about 4 inches from the plug and strip off the outer insulation and use the red and green lines. This is what I did. Be sure that the plug will plug into the phone jack first! I believe the plug for the handset is different than the one that goes in the modem and the wall. To test it, plug it in then pick up the phone and be sure you get a dial tone and can dial. Also, be sure that you cover the whole thing up since there is normally 45 to 60 volts on an open phone line and up to 130 volts, 20 hertz AC during ring in.

Obviously don't try this if you know nothing about electronics! Also, you are at your OWN risk doing this. Please note also that if you don't insulate your connections and the phone line is shorted, You will be responsible when the phone man shows up to check your line and hands you the bill!

It did help in MY case. If you don't have a problem then DON'T use this. It seems to help primarily noisy lines. It won't help a bad modem or bad characters sent by either party. If you want further information, give me a call at: (216) 661-4105.

From: ae522 (Daniel Ohlrich)

```
HERE IS A LITTLE UTILITY
FOR MINI XMOD 1.5 TERMINAL
PROGRAM WESTRIDGE VERSION. IT
ENABLES YOU TO SELECT UPPER OR
LOWER CASE OF CHARACTERS SENT
TO ANOTHER COMPUTER. THE
CHARACTER TABLE FOR CHARACTERS
SENT IS FROM 16694 TO 16719.
THE FOLLOWING UTILITY IS TO BE
ADDED TO THE EXISTING MINIXMOD
1.5 PROGRAM AS LOADED FROM TAPE.
DELETE LINE 101
2000 REM MINIXMOD 1.5 UTILITY
2010 REM CHECK/CHANGE PARAMETER
2020 PRINT
2030 PRINT "CURRENT PAREMETERS:"
2040 PRINT
2060 IF PEEK 18222=79 THEN PRINT "8";TAB 10;"1";"      NONE"
2070 IF PEEK 18222=123 THEN PRINT "7";TAB 10;"1";"      EVEN"
2080 IF PEEK 18222=91 THEN PRINT "7";TAB 10;"1";"      ODD"
2090 PRINT
2100 IF PEEK 16694=65 THEN PRINT "      UPPER CASE SELECTED."
2110 IF PEEK 16694=97 THEN PRINT "      LOWER CASE SELECTED."
2120 PRINT
2130 PRINT "CHANGE SETTINGS Y/N ?"
2140 LET A$=INKEY$
2150 IF A$="" THEN GOTO 2140
2160 IF A$<>"Y" THEN CLS
2170 IF A$<>"Y" THEN RUN
2180 CLS
2190 PRINT
2200 PRINT "1)      7      1      EVEN"
2210 PRINT
2220 PRINT "2)      7      1      ODD"
2230 PRINT
2040 PRINT
2250 PRINT
2260 PRINT "4)      TOGGLE UPPER/LOWER CASE"
2270 PRINT
2280 PRINT "SELECT CHOICE:"
2290 LET A$=INKEY$
2300 IF A$="" THEN GOTO 2290
2310 IF A$="1" THEN POKE 18222,123
2320 IF A$="2" THEN POKE 18222,91
2330 IF A$="3" THEN POKE 18222,79
2340 IF A$="4" THEN GOSUB 2370
2350 CLS
2360 GOTO 2010
2370 REM CHANGE CHARACTER SENT  A-Z TO LOWER CASE
2380 FAST
2390 CLS
2400 IF PEEK 16694=65 THEN GOTO 2510
2410 IF PEEK 16694<>97 THEN PRINT "****CHECK SUM ERROR****"
2420 IF PEEK 16694<>97 THEN STOP
2430 REM CHANGE CHARACTER SENT  A-Z TO UPPER CASE
2440 FOR X=16694 TO 16719
2450 LET Y=(PEEKX)-32
Shown 79%, press SPACE for more, q to quit, h for help
2460 POKE X,Y
2470 NEXT X
2480 SLOW
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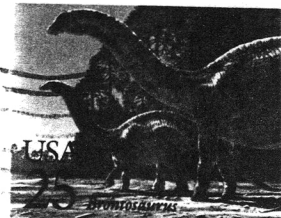
2490 RETURN
2500 REM CHANGE CHARACTER SENT A-Z TO LOWER CASE
2510 FOR X=16694 TO 16719
2520 LET Y=(PEEK X)+32
2530 POKE X,Y
2540 NEXT X
2550 SLOW
2560 RETURN

AFTER THIS IS ENTERED, SAVE THE PROGRAM TO TAPE BY TYPING
IN THE IMMEDIATE MODE:
GOTO 100.

I HAVE ONLY MADE THIS
MODIFICATION ON THE MINIXMOD 1.5 WESTRIDGE VERSION.

DAN OHLRICH (AE522)
Hope this is of help.

From:
The Greater Cleveland
Sinclair Users Group
James G. DuPuy
6514 Bradley Ave. (Down)
Parma, Ohio, 44129



To:

Bob Swoger
613 Parkside Circle
Streamwood, Ill 60107

First Class Mail